

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

No claims are cancelled or amended. This paper adds new claims 49-50. Accordingly, after amendment, claims 1, 4-18, 30-32, 36, 39-42, and 44-50 are pending and under examination, and claim 43 is pending but withdrawn. No new matter is added in these claim amendments.

Restriction Election

Applicant hereby elects the primer combination of **Group A**, corresponding to SEQ ID NOs: 1-4, without traverse.

Claims 1, 4-18, 30-32, 46 and 49-50 read on the elected invention.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37

C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 11/24/08

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